

Paul M. Budd, Director

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Funeral Home

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"A Full Service Funeral Home"

January 28, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

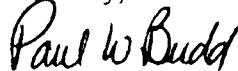
Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

During these times of economic strain, it is important for us to watch our spending, and to focus on production. After hearing that the recent Microsoft settlement may be even further delayed, I felt the need to write you. After years of well thought out negotiations, it is time to let the terms of the settlement speak for themselves. I support the settlement as it stands.

The terms of this settlement have teeth. Not only does Microsoft make various concessions to help promote non-Microsoft software, but they have also agreed to be monitored throughout the entire process. The settlement will require Microsoft to share information detailing the internal interfaces in Windows with its competitors, allowing them to more easily install their own software on machines that use Windows. It is obvious Microsoft is willing to work with the many companies in the IT sector so that everyone can get back to business.

I urge you to help get the economy back on track. The delay of this settlement can only slow down our growth in the technology industry. The finalization of this settlement would be a step in the right direction.

Sincerely,



Paul W. Budd